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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/384,839	08/27/1999	CRAIG R. WHITE	10990926-1	8353

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EXAMINER

BOUTAH, ALINA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2143

DATE MAILED: 03/06/2003

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/384,839	Applicant(s) WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner Alina N Boutah	Art Unit 2143	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Applicant's amendment received on December 20, 2002 has been considered. Claims 1-19 are presented for examination.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-19 have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 2, 5-8, 11-14, and 17-19 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP0917042 issued to Leong et al. in view of USPN 5,93,262 issued to Barrett et al.

Regarding claim 1, Leong et al. teach in a networked computer system including at least one client system, a resource server and at least one system resource accessible to the resource server wherein the at least one client system and the resource server are interconnected by a communications network and wherein a client system includes a processor for executing an

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application program for issuing a resource job including job instructions directing a resource in performing the operation to the resource server, the resource server being responsive to a resource job for directing the job instructions and job data to a resource accessible to the resource server and the resource being responsive to the job instructions and job data for returning corresponding job result information to the resource server, a system resource usage monitoring system, comprising:

in the resource server,

a job processor for forwarding the job instructions and job data of a resource job to a resource accessible to the resource server (col. 1, lines 29-31), and

extracting job attribute information from the resource job wherein the job attribute information includes information identifying system resources to be used in executing the resource job (Abstract; col. 3, lines 5-12; lines 18-25), and

a resource agent for receiving job attribute information from the job processor (Abstract; col. 3, lines 5-12; lines 18-25), and

forwarding the job attribute information to a collecting server, the collecting server including a resource collector for receiving the job attribute, and a database for storing the job attribute information (col. 5, lines 7-15).

Leong et al. fail to teach a resource agent for receiving a job result information returned from the resource wherein the job result information identifies the results achieved by the resource in response to the resource job, and forwarding the job result information to a collecting server, the collecting server including a resource collector for receiving the job result information

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and generating corresponding job detail information representing system resources used in executing the resource job, and a database for storing the job details.

Barrett et al. teach a resource agent for receiving a job result information returned from the resource wherein the job result information identifies the results achieved by the resource in response to the resource job (Abstract; col. 1, lines 9-11, lines 40-46; col. 2, lines 13-16), and

forwarding the job result information to a collecting server, the collecting server including a resource collector for receiving the job result information and generating corresponding job detail information representing system resources used in executing the resource job (Abstract; col. 2, lines 38-41), and storing the job details (Abstract; col. 2, lines 38-41).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Barrett et al. with the teaching of Leong et al. by receiving a job result, forwarding it to a collecting server and storing it in a database because such information may be useful for predicting when maintenance or re-supply will be needed or for diagnosing problems with the resource usage (col. 1, lines 46-50), thus facilitating the resource usage monitoring system as specified in the claim.

Regarding claims 2, 8, and 14, Leong et al. fail to teach the resource usage monitoring system of claim 1, further comprising: a resource manager system communicating with a resource collecting server for reading the job details from the database and providing the job details to a user of the resource manager system for monitoring resource usage. Barrett et al. teach a resource manager system communicating with a resource collecting server for reading

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the job details for monitoring resource usage (col. 6, lines 31-45). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a resource manager system in order to allow the user to access the job details over the network, thus facilitating in monitoring resource usage.

Regarding claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 17 and 18, Leong et al. teach the resource usage monitoring system of claim 1, wherein:

a client system includes a resource accessible to the client system, wherein the client system transmits the job instructions and job data of a resource to the resource (col. 1, lines 29-31),

a job capture mechanism for capturing the job instructions and job data transmitted to the resource (Abstract; col. 3, lines 5-12; lines 18-25),

extracting the job attribute information from the captured job instructions and job data, and forwarding the job attribute information to the resource server (Abstract; col. 3, lines 5-12; lines 18-25; col. 5, lines 7-15).

Leong et al. fail to teach the resource accessible to the client system being a local resource, and capturing and forwarding job result information to the resource server. Barrett et al. teach the resource accessible to the client system being a local resource (col. 5, lines 45-55), and capturing and forwarding job result information to the resource server (Abstract; col. 1, lines 9-11, lines 40-46; col. 2, lines 13-16).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a local printer, in addition to network printers, accessible to the client system

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and forwarding the print instructions document data and job result information to the print server in order to maximize the print servers status control and capability over the entire network.

In regards to 7, Leong et al. teach in a networked computer system including at least one client system, a print server and at least one printer accessible to the print server wherein the at least one client system and the print server are interconnected by a communications network and wherein a client system includes a processor for executing an application program for issuing a print job including print instructions for printing a document file and document data to be printed to the print server, the print server being responsive to a print job for directing the print instructions and document data to a printer accessible to the providing corresponding job result information to the print server, a system resource usage monitoring system, comprising:

in the print server,

a job processor for forwarding the print instructions and document data of a print job to a printer accessible to the print server (col. 1, lines 29-31),

and extracting job attribute information from the print job wherein the job attribute information includes information identifying system resources to be used in executing the print job (Abstract; col. 3, lines 5-12; lines 18-25), and

forwarding the job attribute information to a collecting server, the collecting server including a resource collector for receiving the job attribute, and a database for storing the job attribute information (col. 5, lines 7-15).

Leong et al. fail to teach a resource agent for receiving a job result information returned from the resource wherein the job result information identifies the results achieved by the

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resource in response to the resource job, and forwarding the job result information to a collecting server, the collecting server including a resource collector for receiving the job result information and generating corresponding job detail information representing system resources used in executing the resource job, and a database for storing the job details.

Barrett et al. teach a resource agent for receiving a job result information returned from the resource wherein the job result information identifies the results achieved by the resource in response to the resource job (Abstract; col. 1, lines 9-11, lines 40-46; col. 2, lines 13-16), and

forwarding the job result information to a collecting server, the collecting server including a resource collector for receiving the job result information and generating corresponding job detail information representing system resources used in executing the resource job (Abstract; col. 2, lines 38-41), and storing the job details (Abstract; col. 2, lines 38-41).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Barrett et al. with the teaching of Leong et al. by receiving a job result, forwarding it to a collecting server and storing it in a database because such information may be useful for predicting when maintenance or re-supply will be needed or for diagnosing problems with the resource usage (col. 1, lines 46-50), thus facilitating the resource usage monitoring system as specified in the claim.

Regarding claim 13, Leong et al. teach in a networked computer system including at least one client system, a resource server and at least one system resources accessible to the resource server wherein the at least one client system and the resource server are interconnected by a

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communications network and wherein a client system includes a processor for executing an application program for issuing a resource job including job instructions directing a resource to perform an operation and job data to be operated upon by the resource in performing the operation to the resource server, the resource server being responsive to a resource job for directing the job instructions and job data to a resource accessible to the resource job data for returning corresponding job result information to resource server, and method for monitoring usage of system resources, comprising the steps of:

forwarding a resource job to the resource server (col. 1, lines 29-31),

forwarding the job instructions and the job data of a resource job from the resource server to a resource accessible to the resource server (col. 1, lines 29-31),

extracting job attribute information from the resource job wherein the job attribute information includes information identifying system resources to be used in executing the resource job (Abstract; col. 3, lines 5-12; lines 18-25),

forwarding the job attribute information to a collecting server, the collecting server including a resource collector for receiving the job attribute, and a database for storing the job attribute information (col. 5, lines 7-15).

Leong et al. fail to teach a resource agent for receiving a job result information returned from the resource wherein the job result information identifies the results achieved by the resource in response to the resource job, and forwarding the job result information to a collecting server, the collecting server including a resource collector for receiving the job result information and generating corresponding job detail information representing system resources used in executing the resource job, and a database for storing the job details.

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Barrett et al. teach a resource agent for receiving a job result information returned from the resource wherein the job result information identifies the results achieved by the resource in response to the resource job (Abstract; col. 1, lines 9-11, lines 40-46; col. 2, lines 13-16), and forwarding the job result information to a collecting server, the collecting server including a resource collector for receiving the job result information and generating corresponding job detail information representing system resources used in executing the resource job (Abstract; col. 2, lines 38-41), and storing the job details (Abstract; col. 2, lines 38-41).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Barrett et al. with the teaching of Leong et al. by receiving a job result, forwarding it to a collecting server and storing it in a database because such information may be useful for predicting when maintenance or re-supply will be needed or for diagnosing problems with the resource usage (col. 1, lines 46-50), thus facilitating the resource usage monitoring system as specified in the claim.

Regarding claim 19, Leong et al. teach the method for monitoring usage of system resources of claim 13 wherein the resource is a printer, the resource job is a print job and the job instructions and job data of the resource job are printing instructions and document data (Abstract).

Claims 3, 4, 9, 10, 15, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP0917042 issued to Leong et al. in view of USPN 5,93,262 issued to Barrett et al. in

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further view of *LAN Attached and UNIX Printing for VINES® Administrator's Manual*, by Incognito Software Inc. (ISI).

Regarding claims 3, 4, 9, 10, 15, and 16 Leong et al. teach transmitting job attribute information to the current collecting server (col. 5, lines 7-15).

Leong et al. fail to teach transmitting job result information to the current collecting server. Barrett et al. teach transmitting job result information to the current collecting server (Abstract; col. 1, lines 9-11, lines 40-46; col. 2, lines 13-16).

Both Leong et al. and Barrett et al. fail to teach the resource agent including a dynamic discovery function for identifying a current location of a current resource collector.

ISI teaches the resource agent including a dynamic discovery function for identifying a current location of a current resource collector (The General Model: page 11: Example: 2nd paragraph, “using TCP/IP, the VINES server figures out the location of the UNIX queue...”).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a dynamic discovery function allow user to automatically discover the resource collector, therefore saving time retrieving the needed job information.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

1. USPN 6,515,756 issued to Mastie et al.
2. USPN 6,175,839 issued to Takao et al.
3. USPN 5,987,226 issued to Ishikawa et al.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alina N Boutah whose telephone number is (703) 305-5104. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:30 am-5:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A Wiley can be reached on (703) 308-5221. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-9112 for regular communications and (703) 305-3718 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

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February 26, 2003



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